

Dear St. Marcus Parents:

Thank you for your tremendous patience and understanding as we navigate COVID. My own third grade child was quarantined the last two weeks and it was inconvenient and frustrating but helped keep other students safe. Thank you for making similar sacrifices.

Here are some important updates:

Extension of Remote Fridays Thru January 7th:

On Monday evening the School Council endorsed the principals' recommendation to continue remote Fridays through the end of the 1st semester which would be Friday, January 7th. This will add 6 more remote Fridays to the schedule.

This decision was made largely due to the current spike in COVID 19 cases amongst children and the impact of quarantines on students and staff. Specifically:

- Being in school for in-person instruction 4 days per week is helping to reduce COVID-19 spread on campus and reduce the total number of positive cases and quarantines.
- Student and staff absences due to COVID-19 have increased stress and pressure on students and staff alike. Extending remote Fridays will help reduce this pressure.
- Remote Fridays is providing a critical window for teachers to serve quarantined students and students who need additional interventions as a result of pandemic-related learning loss.

Students to Remain At Home After a COVID Test:

If it is necessary to give your child a COVID test due to symptoms or because they were a close contact, please keep your child at home until you receive a negative result on the test. Parents are encouraged to use the school's free rapid test at the Main Campus between 3:30pm and 4:00pm Monday through Thursday or to go to a pharmacy for a test.

Other COVID Updates:

Students are getting WAY better at masking. Thank you for your support with this. **We are going through almost 1000 masks a week at huge expense. Please remember to send your children to school with a mask in the morning.**

The City of Milwaukee is currently offering \$100 to anybody who gets vaccinated. More information can be found [HERE](#).